



Practitioner's Docket No. A20-012-01-US

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Date: May 23, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REISSUE APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL**

**COPY**

Transmitted herewith is the application for reissue of U.S.

☒ Utility Patent    ☐ Plant Patent    ☐ Design Patent  
No. 5,906,407 issued on May 25, 1999

Inventor(s): Charles Milton Schmeichel

Title: TONNEAU COVER TENSION ADJUSTER APPARATUS

Enclosed are the following:

**1. Specification, claim(s) and drawing(s) (37 C.F.R. § 1.173)**

- (a) ☒ 5 page(s) of specification  
☒ 13 page(s) of claims  
☒ 1 page(s) of abstract

**NOTE:** This must include the entire specification and claims of the patent, with the matter to be omitted by reissue enclosed in square brackets. Any additions made by the reissue must be underlined, so that the old and new specifications and claims may be readily compared. Claims should not be renumbered. The numbering of claims added by reissue should follow the number of the highest numbered patent claim. No new matter shall be introduced into the specification. (37 C.F.R. § 1.173).

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10\***

(Express Mail label number is mandatory.)

(Express Mail certification is optional.)

**EL850929912US**

I hereby certify that this Reissue Application Transmittal and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on this date May 25, 2001, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing Label Number EL 850929912 US, addressed to the: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Susan J. Anderson

(type or print name of person mailing paper)

*Susan J. Anderson*

Signature of person mailing paper

**WARNING:** Certificate of mailing (first class) or facsimile transmission procedures of 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 cannot be used to obtain a date of mailing or transmission for this correspondence.

**\*WARNING:** Each paper or fee filed by "Express Mail" must have the number of the "Express Mail" mailing label placed thereon prior to mailing. 37 C.F.R. § 1.10(b).

"Since the filing of correspondence under § 1.10 without the Express Mail mailing label thereon is an oversight that can be avoided by the exercise of reasonable care, requests for waiver of this requirement will not be granted on petition." Notice of Oct. 24, 1996, 60 Fed. Reg. 56,439, at 56,442.

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(b) ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ sheet(s) of drawing (drawings amended)

☐ Formal

☐ Informal

NOTE: "Amendments which can be made in a reissue drawing, that is, changes from the drawing of the patent, are restricted." 37 C.F.R. § 1.174(b).

☒ No changes in the drawings, upon which the original patent was issued, are to be made. Therefore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.174(a), please find attached, in the size required for original drawings:

☐ a copy of the printed drawings of the patent.

☒ a photoprint of the original drawings.

☒ A letter requesting transfer of the drawings from the original patent file to this reissue application is attached.

2. Declaration and power of attorney

☒ 6 pages of declaration and power of attorney

3. Preliminary amendment

(check, if applicable)

☒ Attached

4. Offer to surrender the original letters patent in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.178 is attached.

☒ Offer to surrender is by the inventor

☐ along with assent of assignee.

☐ Offer to surrender is by the assignee of the entire interest (and the reissue application does not seek to enlarge the claims of the original patent).

5. Letters patent

☒ Original letters patent are attached.

☐ Declaration that original letters patent lost or inaccessible is attached.

☐ A copy of the original printed patent is attached.

NOTE: "The application may be accepted for examination in the absence of the original patent or the declaration but one or the other must be supplied before the case is allowed." 37 C.F.R. § 1.178.

NOTE: "Where the original patent grant is not submitted with the reissue application as filed, patentee should include a copy of the printed original patent. Presence of a copy of the original patent is useful for the calculation of the reissue filing fee and for the verification of other identifying data." M.P.E.P., 6th ed., rev. 2, § 1416.

NOTE: "If a reissue be refused, the original patent will be returned to applicant upon his request." 37 C.F.R. § 1.178.

(Reissue Application Transmittal [17-1]—page 2 of 6)

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[illegible]

- B. ☐ Payment is authorized below.**

☒ Copies of the IDS citation(s) is/are attached.

☐ The certified copy has been filed in prior application Application No. 0 / \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

CLAIMS AS FILED			
Number Filed	Number Extra	Rate	Basic Fee (37 C.F.R. 1.16(h)) \$760.00
Total Claims (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(i))	– 20 (and also in excess of total claims in patent)	X \$18.00	\$216.00
Independent Claims 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(i))	– (number of inde- pendent claims in patent)	X \$78.00	780.00
Filing fee Calculation			\$ 1,756.00

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10. Small Entity Status (if applicable)

NOTE: A new statement is required for the reissue, even if one has been filed in the original patent. 37 C.F.R. § 1.27(a).

WARNING: "Small entity status must not be established when the person or persons signing the . . . statement can unequivocally make the required self-certification." M.P.E.P. § 509.03, 6th ed., rev. 2, July 1996 (emphasis added).

- ☒ A statement that this filing is by a small entity is  
☒ attached.

Filing Fee Calculation (50% of above) \$ 878.00

NOTE: If a statement is filed within 2 months of the date of timely payment of a fee, then the excess fee paid will be refunded on request. 37 C.F.R. § 1.28(a). Effective April 1, 1984.

11. Additional Fee Payments

- ☐ Payment is being made for "PETITION TO PROCEED WITH REISSUE APPLICATION WITHOUT ASSIGNEE"  
(37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h)) . . . . . \$130.00

12. Total Fees Due

Filing Fee	\$ <u>878.00</u>
Petition fee	\$ <u>          </u>
<b>Total Fees Due</b>	<b>\$ <u>878.00</u></b>

13. Method Of Payment of Fees

- ☒ Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$ 878.00  
☐ Charge Account No.                      in the amount of \$                       
A duplicate of this request is attached.

NOTE: Fees should be itemized in such a manner that it is clear for which purpose the fees are paid. 37 C.F.R. § 1.22(b).

**14. Authorization To Charge Additional Fees**

**WARNING:** If no fees are to be paid on filing, the following items should not be completed.

**WARNING:** Accurately count claims, especially multiple dependent claims, to avoid unexpected high charges, if extra claim charges are authorized.

- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the following additional fees by this paper and during the entire pendency of this application to Account No. 13-4300 :

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(a), (f) or (g) (filing fees)

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(b), (c) and (d) (presentation of extra claims)

**NOTE:** Because additional fees for excess or multiple dependent claims not paid on filing or on later presentation must only be paid or these claims cancelled by amendment prior to the expiration of the time period set for response by the PTO in any notice of fee deficiency (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(d)), it might be best not to authorize the PTO to charge additional claim fees, except possibly when dealing with amendments after final action.

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.16(e) (surcharge for filing the basic filing fee and/or declaration on a date later than the filing date of the application)

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1)-(5) (extension fees pursuant to § 1.136(a)).

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (application processing fees)

**NOTE:** "A written request may be submitted in an application that is an authorization to treat any concurrent or future reply, requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission, as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time. An authorization to charge all required fees, fees under § 1.17, or all required extension of time fees will be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission. Submission of the fee set forth in § 1.17(a) will also be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in any concurrent reply requiring a petition for an extension of time under this paragraph for its timely submission." 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

**NOTE:** "Amounts of twenty-five dollars or less will not be returned unless specifically requested within a reasonable time, nor will the payer be notified of such amounts; amounts over twenty-five dollars may be returned by check or, if requested, by credit to a deposit account." 37 C.F.R. § 1.26(a).

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.18 (issue fee at or before mailing of Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.311(b))

**NOTE:** Where an authorization to charge the issue fee to a deposit account has been filed before the mailing of a Notice of Allowance, the issue fee will be automatically charged to the deposit account at the time of mailing the notice of allowance. 37 C.F.R. § 1.311(b).

**NOTE:** See 37 C.F.R. § 1.28.

**15. ☐ Additional Enclosures**

Reg. No.: 32,569

Tel. No.: ( 612 ) 332-8200

Customer No.: 22854



SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Robert C. Freed

*(type or print name of practitioner)*

P.O. Address

Moore & Hansen

90 South 7th Street

Suite 2900

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402

090613-052504  
T05000 02T99860



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Sector  
PATENT 3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Schmeichel, Charles M. ) Docket No.: A20-012-01-US  
Serial No.: 09/866,138 )  
Filed: May 25, 2001 ) Group Art Unit No.: 3612  
For: TONNEAU COVER TENSION )  
ADJUSTER APPARATUS )

Box Missing Parts  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir or Madam:

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS  
OF REISSUE APPLICATION

In response to the Reissue Supplement Notice to File Missing Parts of Application mailed June 25, 2001, a copy of which is attached hereto, please find enclosed the reissue specification in double-column format as is required by 37 CFR 1.173(a)(1), together with a photocopy of the Reissue Application Transmittal filed May 25, 2001. If any further document or documentation is required, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number given below. Thank you.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 C.F.R. 1.8(a))

I, Susan J. Anderson, hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: July 24, 2001

Susan J. Anderson  
[Signature]

Please charge any deficiencies, additional fees or surcharges necessary to make this response timely to the Deposit Account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account No. 13-4300, and credit overpayment thereto. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,  
for the Applicant  
by his Attorneys,

MOORE & HANSEN  
2900 Wells Fargo Center  
90 South Seventh Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402  
(612) 332-8200  
Customer No. 22854

Date:

July 24, 2001

By:

Robert C. Freed

Robert C. Freed, Reg. No. 32,569





Application Number: 09/866,138

Attachment to Paper No.: Date Mailed 6-25-01

**REISSUE SUPPLEMENT  
NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF APPLICATION**

This Reissue Supplement is an attachment to:

"Notice to File Missing Parts of Application" Filing Date Granted

"Notice of Incomplete Application" No filing Date Granted

The item(s) indicated below as missing must be filed within the period for reply set on the attached form to avoid abandonment.

Correction of the following is required to complete the reissue application:

1. The reissue specification has not been provided in double-column format as is required by 37 CFR 1.172(a)(1).

2. Consent of the assignee is missing. 37 CFR 1.172 requires that the reissue oath/declaration be accompanied by the written consent of all assignees.

3. Consent of the assignee is present, but is unsigned. A statement of consent bearing the signature of an official authorized to act on behalf of the assignee(s) must be provided.

4. Assignee's statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) establishing ownership of the patent is missing. 37 CFR 1.72 requires that all assignees consenting to the reissue establish their ownership interest in the patent by filing in the reissue application a statement in accordance with 37 CFR 3.73(b). See MPEP Sec. 324.

5. Assignee's statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is present, but is unsigned. A 37 CFR 3.73(b) statement bearing the signature of an official authorized to act on behalf of the assignee must be provided.

Customer Service Center  
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

COPY